

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus

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Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell Sergeant Scott N. Raynes

Commissioner, Department of Public Safety Executive Director

Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training

Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2014

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Chief Anthony Pesare called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:00 a.m. on February 20, 2014 at RI Municipal Police Training Academy, Lincoln, RI.

Chief Pesare noted for the record that Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell has sent notification appointing Ms. Lisa Holley, Esq. his designee in his absence today; therefore, the quorum has been reached. Chief Pesare asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Edward Mello, and Lisa Holley (designee for Colonel O'Donnell). Also present were

Sergeant Scott Raynes, Captain David Ricciarelli, Mr. Richard B. Woolley, Captain Ernest Quarry, Donna Lavalley, Mr. Paul Dutra, Lieutenant Michael Caruolo and Sergeant Ryan Duffy of Newport PD.

2. Approval of the minutes

Chief Pesare asked for approval of the minutes from the last meeting dated November 21, 2013. Ms. Holley made a motion to accept the minutes of November 21, 2013; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, the motion carries.

3. Request for Approval of Firearms Qualification courses-Sergeant Scott Raynes

- Smithfield PD**
- Jamestown PD**
- Cumberland PD**

Sergeant Raynes stated that after a review by himself and Captain Phil Gould, all departments have met all the requirements for re-certification of their Firearms Qualification courses. A vote should be separate due to Chief Mello's department being one of the courses up for approval.

Smithfield P.D.: Chief Pesare made a motion to approve the Smithfield P.D. Firearms qualification course and Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, motion carries.

Jamestown P.D.: Chief Pesare made a motion to approve the Jamestown P.D. Firearms qualification course and Ms. Holley seconded the motion. Chief Mello abstained from the motion. With all in favor, 2-0, and one abstention, motion carries.

Cumberland P.D: Chief Pesare made a motion to approve the

Cumberland P.D. Firearms Qualification Course and Ms. Holley seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, motion carries.

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4. Request an approval of Woonsocket P.D.'s SRT Certification

Sergeant Raynes stated that after extensions and revisions to their policy, the Rhode Island Tactical Officer's Association has conducted a site review of the Woonsocket PD's Tactical Team and has recommended unanimous approval of their certification. Ms. Holley made a motion to approve the Woonsocket P.D.'s SRT Certification and Chief Mello has seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, motion carries. Chief Pesare extended a thank you to the Woonsocket P.D. for their efforts and hard work to receive this certification.

5. Request for approval of an in-house Basic Swat Officer's Operator Course-Newport P.D.

Sergeant Raynes stated this request is similar to that of the Warwick P.D. a few years ago. When a new operator comes on a team, they must attend a Post-certified Swat Operator's course. Newport P.D. has developed their own course and Sergeant Raynes has done extensive research and has compared it to the Post-approved Basic Operator Course and states that all the core standards have been met and exceeded. He recommends approval of this course. Chief Pesare stated that he has relied on the Newport SRT team and knows how valuable they are. Chief Pesare made a motion to approve an in-house Basic Swat Officer's Operator Course for the Newport P.D. and Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, motion

carries.

6. Request for a waiver of the “Three Year Rule” from the Office of Attorney General for William P. McGill.

Chief Pesare stated that he received notification from the Attorney General that this request has been withdrawn and therefore, the P.O.S.T. need not take any action.

7. Revision of General Order, 2.100, “Basic Recruit Officers Program Waiver” to include the following addition:

Under Section III, Procedure, add “E” to read: “ALL WAIVER CANDIDATES SHALL BE A NON-PROBATIONARY OFFICER IN GOOD STANDING WITH THEIR CURRENT POLICE DEPARTMENT/EMPLOYER.”

Sergeant Raynes stated that he and Captain Ricciarelli have had discussions regarding the waiver candidates program and have both agreed that the General Order should contain a clause which states the candidate must be a non-probationary officer and if not, they must attend the Academy full time. Candidates that are currently still probationary officers have difficulty adapting to the Academy and there is only a 50% success rate after they complete the Academy requirements. Lisa Holley asked if every department has the same probationary period and if not, would that create a problem. Dave Ricciarelli stated that nationwide it does vary from state to state. Chief Mello suggested defining the language to non-probationary and having served continuously for one year. Richard Woolley suggested adding “Active service” to the language as well. Chief Pesare made a motion that the General Order should be added to include “E” as

stated above and in addition add,"and must have served no less than twelve (12) months in continuous active service with a single agency." Sgt. Raynes asked if part or full time would make a difference and Chief Mello added what about if they were on injured status, they are still on active duty. Ms. Holley suggested that this now becomes a department hiring issue and not something that the Academy would need to address. The motion was seconded by Ms. Holley and with all in favor, 3-0, motion carries.

8. Update on Shotgun and Rifle Standards

Sergeant Raynes stated that he has made calls throughout the State regarding Rhode Island Statute 11-47-15.3 as it relates to the standards for all weapons. The statute reads ALL firearms and therefore, he feels the POST should be qualifying all three weapons: pistol, shotgun and patrol rifle. There are eight areas listed in the Statute and he asked if we should consider all eight requirements for the group of weapons or as it pertains to each weapon? His feeling is to base it on the group. Chief Mello agreed and said the objective should be for the entire firearms group. Sergeant Raynes proposed that he would develop the minimum standards for the Shotgun and Rifle qualifications course and send it to all Training Officers. Chief Mello asked if it would then come to the POST for approval and Chief Pesare stated that it would be included in their entire approval package and referred to Section (g) of the Statute. Mr. Dutra reminded everyone that this statute is part of a series and the annual

qualification is spelled out in an earlier statute. Sgt. Raynes stated that Section (c) states a minimum number of 100 rounds shall be fired and asked if they felt it was for each weapon. Chief Mello thought this would not be feasible to ask departments to supply 100 rounds per weapon.

9. Update on current recruit class

Sergeant Raynes stated that Trooper Tom Chabot is on vacation this week. The Recruit class is in Week 7 and at Mock Court today. There are currently 38 recruits in this class and all is going according to schedule. He commended Troopers Chabot, Hartwell and Younkin for taking the initiative to make some much-needed changes. Trooper Chabot spoke with each instructor and was able to take some books away that were not being used to alleviate the cost to the department.

Effective with the July, 2014 class, we will switch over to a BDU Uniform instead of the blue uniform, baseball hat, name tags and corfam shoes. All total, it will be a total savings over last year in the amount of \$665.68. We are also moving towards going to a paperless system but that is still in the works as there are logistics that need to be worked out such as laptops or tablets that the recruits will need. Chief Mello asked about how long that will take and Sgt. Raynes replied perhaps a year. Chief Pesare stated that as a reminder, departments budgeting process begins in January with the funding available in July.

Chief Pesare thanked Sergeant Raynes and the Academy staff for the

work they do and for moving forward in a positive way.

10. Update on Continuing Education

Captain Ricciarelli stated that there are currently 54 programs on the books for the next six months. He is aware of the continual need for programs such as FTO, First Line Supervisor and Instructor Development and working on funding.

11. Certification of Academy Instructors

- Officer Andrew J. Barth, Middletown P.D.**
- Officer Brett McKinnon, Middletown P.D.**

Chief Pesare recused himself from this agenda item and handed the meeting over to Chief Mello. Sgt. Raynes stated that he is recommending both officers for certification. They have both completed the Lock-UP Program and therefore would be one of our Use Of Force Instructors. Chief Mello made a motion to certify both Officer Barth and Officer McKinnon and Ms. Holley seconded the motion. With all in favor, 2-0, motion carries.

12. Submission of “Municipal Police Academy Annual Report 2013” to the POST members.

Ms. Holley commended the staff for the work entailed in putting this report together. She said it is impressive and comprehensive and she would give a copy to Colonel O'Donnell.

Chief Mello asked if in the next report, the Academy could add the Municipalities commitment to the Academy and Sgt. Raynes replied that would not be a problem because we now keep detailed records of all that.

13. Adjournment

Chief Mello made a motion to adjourn the February 20, 2014 POST meeting and Ms. Holley seconded the motion. With all in favor, 3-0, motion carries. Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Lavallee

Administrative Assistant